

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-16 (Cancelled).

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A pharmaceutical oral dosage unit ~~for oral administration~~ containing at least 10 µg of a steroid selected from the group consisting of 15-hydroxytestosterones, precursors thereof, mixtures thereof of these hydroxytestosterones, and precursors of these said mixtures of these hydroxytestosterones; and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, wherein said oral dosage unit is selected from the group consisting of a tablet, a capsule and a chachet.

Claim 18 (Cancelled).

Claim 19 (Cancelled).

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): The pharmaceutical oral dosage unit according to claim 17, wherein the steroid is selected from the group consisting of 15α-hydroxytestosterone, precursors thereof, mixtures of 15α-hydroxytestosterone, and precursors of these mixtures of these hydroxytestosterones.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The pharmaceutical oral dosage unit according to claim 17, wherein the steroid is selected from the group consisting of 15β-hydroxytestosterone, precursors thereof, mixtures of 15β-hydroxytestosterone, and precursors of these mixtures of these hydroxytestosterones.

Claim 22 (Cancelled).

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The pharmaceutical oral dosage unit according to claim 17, wherein the precursors of the hydroxytestosterones are derivatives of the hydroxytestosterones wherein the hydrogen atom of at least one hydroxyl group has been

substituted by an acyl radical of a hydrocarbon carboxylic, sulfonic or sulfamic acid of 1-25 carbon atoms; tetrahydrofuranyl; tetrahydropyranal; or a straight or branched chain glycosidic residue containing 1-20 glycosidic units per residue.

Claim 24 (Cancelled).

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): The pharmaceutical oral dosage unit according to claim 17, wherein the oral dosage unit is a tablet, ~~a capsule, a cachet, a pellet, a pill, a powder or granules.~~

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): The pharmaceutical oral dosage unit according to claim 17, wherein the oral dosage unit contains between 20 μ g and 1000 mg of the androgenic steroid.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): The pharmaceutical oral dosage unit according to claim 17, wherein the oral dosage unit additionally contains at least 10 μ g of a progestogen and/or at least 10 μ g of an estrogen.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): A method of therapeutically ~~or prophylactically~~ treating androgen deficiency in a mammal, said method comprising oral, ~~transmucosal or transdermal~~ administration to said mammal of a ~~the~~ oral dosage unit according to claim 17.

Claim 29 (Cancelled).

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 28, wherein the method comprises the administration of the steroid in an average daily amount in the range of 0.5 μ g to 1.5 mg per kg of bodyweight.

Claim 31 (Cancelled).